

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A document examination apparatus, comprising:
  - an examination document storing unit which stores an electronic examination document in an examination document database;
  - an attribute information storing unit which stores attribute information of examiners to examine the examination document in an attribute information database;
  - a selecting unit for allowing a requester to select a plurality of examiners based on the attribute information of examiners;
  - an examination requesting unit which requests examination of the examination document to the selected examiners through a network;
  - a first browsing unit disposed at examiners' side having a screen with an examination acceptance button for executing an examination acceptance process, and for displaying the examination document;
  - a collecting unit collecting examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;
  - a second browsing unit disposed at a requester's side having a screen with an examination request button for executing an examination request process, and searching through the examination results collected and displaying the examination results on a screen in a searchable examination result list responsive to a request having an identifier defined by the requester; and
  - a controller for displaying the examination result list at the first browsing unit allowing each examiner to search through the examination result list, and  
wherein the controller controls the second browsing unit to perform a request mail compiling process in which a request mail for requesting examination of the examination document is compiled, and controls the examination requesting unit to transmit the request mail to the first browsing unit, the first browsing unit is configured to display a screen for selecting an

examination result reply process, and an approval process, and the screen for the approval process displays an approval button for approving the examination document and a reject button for rejecting the examination document.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, in which the examination document storing unit sets a degree of importance of the examination document corresponding to the attribute information of examiners, and the examination document browsing unit controls permission or prohibition of browsing depending on the degree of importance.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an urging unit which checks the status of collection of the examination result, and urges for an examination to the examiner in charge before and after the preset collection period.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an examination result storing unit which attaches an XML tag to every phrase in the collected examination result, and stores the examination result as an examination result database; and

a summary result browsing unit which sums up the examination results stored in the examination result database, and allowing the requester to browse the summary result.

6. (ORIGINAL) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, in which the examination document storing unit stores at least the file of the examination documents converted into an XML file in the examination document database.

7. (ORIGINAL) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a model presenting unit which presents an examination document stored in the examination document database as a model when compiling the examination document.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A document examination method, comprising:

- storing an electronic examination document in an examination document database,
- storing attribute information of examiners to examine the examination document in an attribute information database;
- allowing a requester to select a plurality of examiners based on the attribute information of the examiners;
- requesting examination of the examination document to the selected examiners through a network;
- displaying a screen with an examination acceptance button for executing an examination acceptance process, and the examination document at an examiners' side;
- collecting examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;
- displaying a screen with an examination request button for executing an examination request process at a requester's side;
- searching through the examination results collected and displaying the examination results on a screen in a searchable examination result list at a requester's side responsive to a request having an identifier defined by the requester; ~~and~~
- displaying the examination result list at the examiners' side for allowing each examiner to search through the examination result list;
- performing a request mail compiling process in which a request mail for requesting examination of the examination document is compiled;
- transmitting the request mail to the examiners' side;
- displaying, at the examiners' side, a screen for selecting an examination result reply process, and an approval process; and
- displaying, at the examiners' side, an approval button for approving the examination document and a reject button for rejecting the examination document.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program containing instructions, which when executed on a computer, causes the computer to perform the operations of:

- storing an electronic examination document in an examination document database,
- storing attribute information of examiners to examine the examination document in an attribute information database,
- allowing a requester to select a plurality of examiners on the basis of the attribute information of the examiners;

requesting examination of the examination document to the selected examiners through a network;

displaying a screen with an examination acceptance button for executing an examination acceptance process, and the examination document at an examiners' side;

collecting examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;

displaying a screen with an examination request button for executing an examination request process at a requester's side;

searching through the examination results collected and displaying the examination results on a screen in a searchable examination result list at a requester's side responsive to a request having an identifier defined by the requester; and

displaying the examination result list at the examiners' side for allowing each examiner to search through the examination result list;

performing a request mail compiling process in which a request mail for requesting examination of the examination document is compiled;

transmitting the request mail to the examiners' side;

displaying, at the examiners' side, a screen for selecting an examination result reply process, and an approval process; and

displaying, at the examiners' side, an approval button for approving the examination document and a reject button for rejecting the examination document.

10. (CANCELLED)

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer program according to claim 9, wherein when storing the examination document, a degree of importance of the examination document is set corresponding to the attribute information of examiners, and a permission for browsing is given in accordance with the degree of importance.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer program according to claim 9, causing the computer to further perform an operation of checking the status of collection of the examination result, and urging examination to the examiner in charge before and after the preset collection period.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer program according to claim 9, causing the computer to further perform the operations of:

attaching an XML tag to every phrase in the collected examination result;  
storing the examination result in an examination result database;  
summing up the examination results stored in the examination result database; and  
allowing the requester to browse the summary result.

14. (ORIGINAL) The computer program according to claim 9, wherein at least the file of the examination documents converted into an XML file is stored in the examination document database.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer program according to claim 9, causing the computer to further perform the operation of presenting an examination document stored in the examination document database as a model when compiling the examination document.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A document examination method, comprising:  
storing an electronic examination document and storing attribute information of examiners to examine the examination document;

receiving a selection of a number of examiners based on the attribute information corresponding to the examiners from a requester; and

requesting examination of the examination document by the selected number of examiners, where searchable examination results of the examination document is collected and searched through using an identifier defined by the requester for displaying said results on screens to both the requester and the selected number of examiners, and

wherein the requesting includes:

displaying a screen with an examination request button for executing an examination request process at a requester's side;

performing a request mail compiling process in which a request mail for requesting examination of the examination document is compiled; and

transmitting the request mail to the selected number of examiners.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of reviewing an electronic document by multiple reviewers, comprising:

setting an electronic document to be examined by a selected number of examiners responsive to a request from a user; and

executing an examination of the electronic document by the selected number of examiners and displaying a browseable result of the examination on a screen in accordance with an identifier defined by the user to allow browsing through the result of the examination including via a web browser, and

wherein the executing includes:

displaying a screen with an examination acceptance button for executing an examination acceptance process at an examiners' side;

displaying, at the examiner's side, a screen for selecting an examination result reply process, and an approval process; and

displaying, at the examiner's side, an approval button for approving the examination document and a reject button for rejecting the examination document.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium storing a program containing instructions, which when executed on a computer, causes the computer to perform operations, comprising:

receiving a document to be examined by selected examiners and formatting the document into XML;

storing the document based on an XML tag identified by a requester submitting the document for examination; and

retrieving an examination result of the document using the XML tag and displaying to the requester responsive to a request;

displaying a screen with an examination acceptance button for executing an examination acceptance process at an examiners' side;

displaying a screen with an examination request button for executing an examination request process at a requester's side;

performing a request mail compiling process in which a request mail for requesting examination of the examination document is compiled;

transmitting the request mail to the examiners' side;

displaying, at the examiners' side, a screen for selecting an examination result reply

process, and an approval process; and

displaying, at the examiners' side, an approval button for approving the examination document and a reject button for rejecting the examination document.